

REMARKS

This Response, filed in reply to the Office Action dated August 10, 2007, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of objection and rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2 are rejected. Claim 5 is canceled. Claims 1-4 and 6-9 are amended. Support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, and at least at the following.

Support for the amendment to Claim 1 can be found on page 1, lines 6-7 of the specification as filed. Support for the amendments to Claims 2-4 can be found at, for example, page 4, lines 15-29, of the specification as filed. Support for Claim 6 can be found at, for example, page 4, lines 30-31 of the specification as filed. Support for Claim 7 can be found at, for example, page 5, lines 1-2, of the specification as filed. Support for Claim 8 can be found at, for example, page 5, lines 3-4, of the specification as filed. Support for Claim 9 can be found at, for example, page 5, lines 5-6, of the specification as filed.

No new matter is added by way of this amendment. Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 1-4 and 6-9 will be all the claims pending in the application. Entry and consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 2 are Adequately Described Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

On page 3 of the Office Action, Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, for allegedly lacking adequate written description. It is alleged that Claims 1 and 2 encompass

primers having the nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID NOs:1 and 2 with extensions of one nucleotide or more on either their 5'- or 3'-ends, or both. It is further alleged that the specification does not disclose what 5'- or 3'-end extensions, other than those of SEQ ID NO:3, would help identify plants containing a high artemisinin content.

Solely to advance prosecution, and without acquiescing in the rejection, Applicants herewith amend Claims 1 and 2. Claim 1 has been amended to recite a pair of primers consisting of a forward and a reverse primer, wherein the forward primer consists of SEQ ID NO. 1 and the reverse primer consists of SEQ ID NO. 2. Claim 2 has been amended to even further clarify Applicants' intended invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the claims overcome the rejection.

Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 2 are Enabled Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

On page 6 of the Office Action, Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, for allegedly lacking enablement. It is asserted that the specification fails to provide adequate guidance as to how to make a set of primers having SEQ ID NOs:1 and 2, with additional features such as nucleotide extensions to the 5'- and 3'-ends, that would help in identification of plants with high artemisinin content.

Applicants submit that the amendments to the claims submitted herewith overcome the rejection. The guidance provided on at least pages 8 and 9 of the specification as originally filed would allow one of ordinary skill in the art to easily and efficiently identify *Artemisia annua*

plants that contain at least 0.4 w/w/% artemisinin using the primer pair consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1 and 2. Thus, Claims 1 and 2 are enabled.

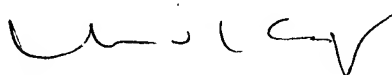
Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants have amended herewith Claims 3, 4 and 6-9 such that they may be eligible for rejoinder as being directed to methods of using the invention claimed in Claim 1. Applicants respectfully request that should Claim 1 be found allowable, Claims 2-4 and 6-9 be rejoined as a matter of right.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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